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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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BY CABLE

The following is a summary of Soviet and East German military activities observed prior to 27 December.

A. Soviet Activities.

1. Training and Troop Movements:

On 11 December, two boxcars loaded with troops and eight JS tanks were shipped from Dresden to Koenigsbrueck. Another two boxcars with troops and ten T-34 tanks left Meissen for Koenigsbrueck on 16 December. On 17 December, there were tank firing exercises in the Bohra area. According to an unconfirmed report, the bulk of the troops stationed at Grimma had not yet returned to their posts on 14 December.¹ During the week from 7 to 14 December, daily firing and driving practices were held with four to eight new-type tanks at the Gentzrode training grounds north of Neuruppin. The area was heavily guarded.

2. Arms and Vehicle Shipments:

On 15 December, eight new-type rocket launchers were detrained by the 25th Guards Rocket Launcher Brigade in Rathenow. On 16 December, two converted boxcars with troops and 34 flatcars loaded with armored personnel carriers went from the East German border at Frankfurt/Oder to Jueterbog. On 21 December, 25 armored personnel carriers and 30 escort personnel were detrained at Bernau.

B. East German Activities.

1. General:

The new training year started in the usual fashion. Recruits were being trained near the posts. Fifty per cent of all troops were given furloughs

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over the Christmas and New Year holidays.

2. New Units:

An anti-aircraft artillery unit and possibly an anti-tank unit were being activated in the Strausberg-Eggersdorf area.

3. Miscellaneous:

Up to 11 December, the company and platoon officer school in Dessau had not started a new course. On 9 December, the KVP school at Naumburg was the scene of a conference which was attended by high civilian officials and by KVP and Soviet officers, including six Soviet generals.



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